

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NAIROB 05095 190552Z

16

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01

SP-02 AGR-05 AID-05 COME-00 INR-07 IO-13 LAB-04

OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-04 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 CEA-01 SS-15

NSC-05 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 /124 W

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O 190532Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9834

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 5095

UNCTAD 057

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, UNCTAD

SUBJECT: GROUP B POSITION ON COMMODITIES

REF: NAIROBI 4945

1. WE ARE TRANSMITTING BY SEPTTEL, THE TEXT OF A DRAFT ON THE COMMODITIES PROBLEM PREPARED BY USDEL AND PRESENTED TO GROUP B MAY 19 WITH THE RECOMMENDATION THAT GROUP B ADOPT IT AS A "NON-PAPER" FOR EVENTUAL DISCUSSION WITH G-77.

2. THIS DRAFT IS INTENDED TO COUNTER TWO GROWING RISKS. FIRST, THE DANGER THAT A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES WOULD GO OFF ON A TANGENT THE U.S. COULD NOT SUPPORT (IN PARTICULAR, ACCEPTANCE OF THE "PRINCIPLE" OF CONSUMER-PRODUCER FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL BUFFER STOCKS) BLENDED WITH SLIPPERY PROCEDURES ON EARLY NEGOTIATIONS ON THE COMMON FUND) AND SECON, A RISK THAT THE SLOW PROGRESS OF GROUP B IN PRODUCING AGREED COMMODITY TEXTS, DUE MAINLY TO INTRA-EC PROBLEMS, WOULD START THE CHEMISTRY OF DEADLOCK AND CONFRONTATION FOAMING AMONG

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 NAIROB 05095 190552Z

LDC MODERATES.

3. ON MONDAY WE GOT WORD THAT SOME OR ALL OF THE NINE, TOGETHER WITH THE NORDICS AND SWISS WERE TRYING TO PUT TOGETHER A PAPER THAT WOULD HAVE GONE TOO FAR IN SOME DIRECTIONS FOR THE U.S. AND NOT FAR ENOUGH IN OTHERS, FOR EXAMPLE, ON THE RESOURCES BANK. AT THE SAME TIME EC CONSERVATIVES AND GROUP B LEADERSHIP (GENERAL COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN TEESE AND GROUP B COORDINATOR PUTMAN) PRIVATELY URGED US TO TABLE A COMPLETE TEXT BEFORE THE EC DUG INTO CONTRARY FORMULATIONS. IN VIEW OF THIS DEVELOPMENT, WE UNDERTOOK TO PREPARE AN EXTENDED DRAFT FOR GROUP B DRAWING ON THE OLD GENEVA GROUP B POSITION PAPER, SECRETARY KISSINGER'S SPEECH AND WHATEVER ELABORATION WE FELT COULD BE ADDED BASED ON IDEAS OF OTHER DELEGATIONS AND PLENARY SPEECHES BY OTHER COUNTRIES WITHIN THE LIMITS OF U.S. POSITION. WE HAVE KEPT IN CLOSEST POSSIBLE TOUCH WITH THE KEY WESTERN DELEGATIONS AND JAPAN.

4. WHILE OUR DRAFT IS A TYPE OF PRE-EMPTIVE STRIKE WITHIN GROUP B IT CAN HARDLY BE CALLED SUCH BY OTHERS. IN ADDITION TO THIS FUNCTION, AWARENESS OF ITS EXISTENCE ON THE PART OF THE G-77 WILL ENCOURAGE THE MODERATES TO MAINTAIN MOMENTUM TOWARD A CONSENSUS OUTCOME.

5. WE WILL BE DISCUSSING THIS DRAFT AS WELL AS INEVITABLE DRAFTS FROM OTHERS OVER THE NEXT TWO DAYS IN GROUP B.
MARSHALL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMODITIES, AGREEMENT DRAFT, FOREIGN TRADE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 MAY 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: saccheem
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NAIROB05095
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760193-0567
From: NAIROBI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760537/aaaabfoy.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 NAIROBI 4945
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: saccheem
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 MAY 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <20 SEP 2004 by saccheem>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GROUP B POSITION ON COMMODITIES
TAGS: EGEN, KE, UNCTAD
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006